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N. E. FARMER.

THE CURCULIO.—WARTY EXCRESENCE ON THE PLUM TREE.

[The following communication, addressed to the Fruit Committee of the Mass. Horticultural Society, by Dr. Joel Burnett, of Southboro', Mass., possesses so much of interest to fruit-growers, that we need make no apology for devoting to its insertion so large a portion of our space. Dr. B. has been for many years a close observer of the diseases and enemies to which the plum tree is liable, and his opinions are therefore entitled to much consideration.]

To the Fruit Committee of the Mass. Horticul. Society:

Gentlemen—Noticing the vote of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, in the *New England Farmer* of July 14, 1841, which awards a premium of $200 for destroying the Curculio, and also the vote placing the subject under the direction of the Fruit Committee, I am induced to address you upon that subject.

I consider the motive philanthropic in passing this vote, for members of that Society well know the pleasure and the profit of cultivating good fruit, and the healthy and harmless luxury, and the delicious fare it always affords; and wishing to remove every obstacle in the way of, and grant every facility in, its cultivation, in order that this pleasure, so productive of profit and comfort, may become general in the community, have generously offered this reward to any one who will make known to you a successful mode of removing the great, or only impediment, which lies in the way of success in the cultivation of those delicious and beautiful fruits—the plum and peach.

It will be my aim to state here what I know of this insect from observation, entering somewhat into his natural history; describing his metamorphosis; his three stages of existence, viz: the larva, pupa and perfect-imago, or beetle states. And this will be done for the reason that the more we know of his character, the more practical and more effectual will be our efforts to check and prevent the injuries he commits upon fruit.

This insect was called by *Herbst*, Rhynchænus Nenuphar: by *Peck*, Rhynchænus Cerasi—but commonly goes by the name of Curculio, or plum weevil, by horticulturists. "He is a little rough, dark brown beetle," has two small bunches or protuberances on his back—a rostrum or beak, on which are two antennæ—(Fig. 1.)

Fig. 1.—The Curculio of the natural size.

He is so shy and retiring and unobtrusive in his character, in his beetle stage, that he is not liable to be seen, unless he is searched for purposely, and this is the reason why so little is known of him generally.

When you have discovered that he is operating upon the fruit, which you may know by his peculiar mark upon it, by assiduously watching, you may chance to see him cutting the incision with his rostrum—(Fig. 2.)

Fig. 2.—The Curculio in the act of making an incision. The small dot or discolored spot at the inner line of his incision, is the nest where the egg lies.

If you extend your thumb and finger towards him, it must be very cautiously and slyly, or before you touch him he will drop, as imperceptibly as a small shot would, to the ground.

It should be remarked, that we do not know that he uses the fruit for his food, but chooses it as receptacles for his eggs.

He begins his work upon the plum and apricot, as soon in the season as the small cap or covering, formed by the blossom, falls off—but not so soon upon the peach. Examining the fruit occasionally or daily, you are to know when he has commenced his work *by his peculiar mark* or incision, which is readily seen on fruit with smooth skin, as the plum, cherry, apple, &c.; but on the peach, it is known by a small drop of gum oozing from its surface. It has been stated, that the furzy surface on the peach is a barrier or obstacle in his way, but it does not prove so here, as the injury which it sustains is quite general, unless protected.

I say, then, he is known to be on the fruit tree by his peculiar mark on the fruit. This mark is the wound he makes with his rostrum, which consists in raising up the skin of the plum to a small extent, under which he deposits an egg. The shape or form of this mark is semi-lunar or crescent shape, and in the middle of this wound is a small discolored speck, where the egg is placed—(Figs. 2, 3 and 4.)

In the early part of the season, or during the month of June, his mark will be found near the apex or point of the plum—(Fig. 3.)

(Fig. 3.)

But after the plum has reached a considerable size, or from the 1st to the 20th of July, his mark will be found at the base, or near where the stem is inserted—(Fig. 4.)

Fig. 4.—3, the incision near the base: 4 4 show the blue line, indicating that the grub is eating within.

This last mentioned place (at the base,) the insect prefers, it would seem, from instinct, lest the plum, by its strong connection to the tree, should not fall soon enough to secure the welfare of the grub within it; for this vital connection is sooner disturbed by the worm than it would be if the egg had been deposited in the apex.

When the egg hatches, the larva, sometimes, it is presumed, falls from the nidus or nest, and the fruit remains unharmed: but most generally, in four or five days from the time the egg is laid, a small blueish line, near the skin, may be seen, extending from his mark, (*Fig.* 4,) which signifies that the grub is within. And also when his mark has assumed a blueish tint, you may be certain that destruction will follow; for when you see these signs, take the plum from the tree, and cut off a small portion where the mark is, and you will notice that the larva has burrowed down into it.

The effect upon the plum or other fruit, of the larva within, is to cause it to shrivel and decay, and after a while it falls. By the time the plum falls, the insect has nearly or quite completed his larva or grub state, and then he leaves it and goes down a little way into the earth.

Here in the earth he undergoes his transformation, (*Fig.* 5.) which is performed in about twenty days, in the month of June or fore part of July.

Fig. 5.—Larvæ of the Curculio of the natural size.

But all the larvæ, (so far as I have observed,) that go into the earth about as late as the 20th of July, do no ascend that season, but remain there in the pupa stage (*Fig.* 6,) until the next spring.

Fig. 6.—Curculio in the pupa state magnified.

We are to observe, then, that there are two generations in one season, of these insects, and this fact it is important to know; for if the first generation in the larva and beetle stages is destroyed, we have little to fear from the second, which operates in July.

The kinds of fruit, and the only kinds, which the Curculio injures, as far as I have observed, are the plum, apricot, nectarine, peach, cherry and apple, and these I have placed in the order in which he seems to prefer them. But I would remark, that he is not the only insect which makes the apple wormy. The codling moth does great injury to the apple crop, and the caterpillar of this moth should not be mistaken for the larva of the Curculio.

The Curculio does not usually injure the cherry crop excessively, but it is remarkable what a cause of general devastation he proves to the plum crop, when he is suffered to go on in his work unmolested. The writer has known large plum trees, loaded with fruit in the early part of June, upon which nearly every plum would be punctured, and consequently all would be lost to the cultivator.

The objection in the community against cultivating this fruit, is upon the complaint, or fact, that the plums will not hang on until ripe; and nurserymen are often questioned if they know of any kinds that will not drop before they become matured.

As great a pest as this little insect is to the fruit-grower, I am not willing that he should be loaded with more sins than he deserves. He has been charged with being the cause of the fungus excrescences on the plum tree, of which he will not plead guilty. True, his larvæ, and also those of some other insects, it is said, are found in this fungus, and this is the reason why this disease has been attributed to him. My reasons for saying he is not the cause of this disease, may be offered in another place.

It is remarkable how unconfined or unlocated the Curculio appears to be. I formerly believed that he was limited nearly to the ground, under and near the tree where he was produced, and that if the earth under it was paved, or so fixed as to prevent the larvæ from descending into it, that that tree would be secure the following season, at least. But more extensive observation has taught me otherwise. This fact I consider a very important point in this insect's character. In 1838, a new apple tree came into bearing, having three apples upon it, situated 20 rods distant from any fruit-bearing tree, and I hoped to test the quality of the apples thereby; but I was disappointed. In the first of July, I noticed the spoiler's mark upon these apples, and after a while they dropped off. I have searched after, and found him upon an apple tree in a pasture, which stood alone and at a distance from any other fruit tree. A plum tree, trained at the east end of my house, bore for the first time in the year 1841. I watched the fruit, and, about the usual time, found his mark upon some of the plums, and secured them. From these observations, I am led to the supposition, at least, that he may not be dependent altogether upon the before mentioned fruits for the propagation of his race; but when fruits are wanting, he finds other receptacles for his eggs. But this is a conjecture simply. No doubt he is capable of flying to a considerable distance.

Dr. Harris stated to me that he was not certain that the plum weevil does feed in the beetle form, though he rather supposed he did. But whether he does or does not feed, his organs of taste and smell are rather obsolete or disused, for we are able to state, from observation, that many kinds of odorous bodies which are obnoxious to many insects, are not so to him.

I have tried camphor upon the tree, watered it with solution of soap and of tobacco, and I do n't know that he was disturbed any further than he would be mechanically by their application.

I might here notice the inadequacy of other measures which have been recommended to frustrate his operations, but prefer to proceed to a statement of those means which will ensure success, if persevered in, and prove satisfactory.

As the notion is prevalent that he crawls up the body of the tree, I would state that he *flies on to it*, and therefore it is useless to apply any preventative to keep him from ascending that way.

I am free to state that this insect cannot be combatted without labor, and the result secured, will very far more than compensate for all labor bestowed, even in a pecuniary point of view.

Believing, from my observation, that he cannot be successfully opposed by preparations of soap, and infusions of odorous bodies thrown on to the tree, by means of a syringe, I proceed to state the course which has been followed with success, so far as I know.

Our rule of action should be, *direct aggression* upon him, both in the beetle and larva forms. In the pupa stage he lies in the ground secured from our search.

Watched, as the plum and fruit trees always should be, by the gardener, as soon as his mark is seen on the plums, which will be generally as soon as the plum is left naked by the blossom, a sheet of sufficient dimensions should be suspended beneath the tree, by two or three individuals, or otherwise; then give the tree a sudden rap or jar, and the insect immediately falls upon it, and, feigning himself dead, very much resembles a raisin seed in form--(Fig. 7.)

(Fig. 7.)

The insect, when shook from the tree, assumes the above form—either that of the upper or lower figure, and keeps the feigned appearance a moment or two.

All the Curculios on the sheet should be crushed between the thumb and finger, and all the stung plums that fall from the tree should be put into the fire.

I would impress upon the mind of the gardener the importance of assiduously attending to the destruction of the Curculio in the month of June. The trees should be shaken twice or three times daily, certainly in the morning and evening, in order that the beetles may be crushed, and all the wounded fruit gathered and put into the fire. I have observed that, usually, after the twentyfifth of July he is not to be found.

If the first generation, which operate in June, are well destroyed, we have less, yea, very little, to fear from the second generation, which work in July. Children, who are always urged by impulsive curiosity, to examine and investigate any new and curious object—of an insect, flower, or pebble—are ready and sufficient hands to perform much of this work, and gladly will they perform it when promised a share of the product.

This mode of protecting and preserving plums from the Curculio, I have always found to succeed.

I am aware that the labor required may be thought an objection to this mode of warfare, and that the result will not warrant the time and pains; but if the orchardist will tar his apple trees to protect against the canker-worm, and the gardener spend time to kill the cut-worm, and water his plants in a dry season, surely this course is also justifiable;—the result will justify the means.

A tree standing near the door, if jarred and shook several times a day, as it may be passed, would be likely to succeed, as this course would discommode and frustrate the insect in his work.

Plum trees, standing in a hog-yard, frequently sustain partial crops, for the hogs are frequently, during the day, rubbing against them, and are pretty sure to eat all those that fall to the earth.

Plums can be saved, even after the egg is laid in them, by a trivial operation, if done before it has hatched; and this operation I have practiced successfully and repeatedly.

You may smile at a manœuvre which is to destroy an almost infinitesimal egg, with an instrument made of a quill, like a tooth-pick; but this the fruit-amateur will do with pleasure, if thereby he can save a plum on a new young tree, to test the fruit of which he has been waiting patiently with hopeful anxiety. It is well worth the while to do this on low trees, in point of economy.

It may be well to remark, that the egg is deposited in the inner circle of the incision, under a small discolored portion of the skin of the plum, and the operation consists in removing this discolored portion of the skin, and scooping out the egg with the instrument—(Fig. 8.)

Fig. 8.—Showing the method of destroying the eggs with a quill.

The desire which has been manifested in the community to possess a knowledge of this insect, the manner in which he operates, and a means of destroying him, must be my apology for thus far prolonging these remarks.

Warty or Black Excresence.

A communication from William Prince & Co., some few weeks since, to the Editor of the *New England Farmer*, in which a list of the kind of plum is made out, which, they say, are not subject to the fungus or warty excrescences, has induced me to state my opinion concerning the nature of that disease.

I do not remember to have seen that disease spoken of, except in connection with the belief that it is caused by an insect; and I believed it to be so produced, until observation proved to me that it was attributed to the wrong cause. The reason any one would offer as proof that the disease was caused by the Curculio, is that its larvæ are sometimes found in this juicy fungus.

There is one analogous reason for attributing this fungus to the Curculio, or some insect; that is, the production of galls upon the oak by the puncture of an insect, and the depositing his egg in the puncture. But how uniform, in form and size, are these galls, compared with these excrescences, which are very irregular in form and size.

So far as I have been able to observe, by dissecting these fungi, they appear to arise in that part or texture called the alburnum.

I have thought that the proximate cause might be, an obstruction in the vessels of that texture, by reason of the unhealthiness of the sap. The vessels burst, and the sap is poured out under the bark. Now the sap is as full of the life of the tree as blood is full of the life of an animal.

This extravasated sap will immediately become organized, or partially so, and, rapidly increasing burst through the outer bark and make its appearance.

This fungus is not confined to the young wood, but is produced upon limbs of large size, the outer bark of which the Curculio would not be able to puncture.

It makes its appearance from June up to August. These fungi come in all forms; sometimes in a single spot, and then again extend along the limb for several inches, always with an irregular granulated surface. This want of uniformity in form, size and location, is evidence that it is not caused by an insect. After being cut from the large limbs, these fungi will often sprout out again between the wood and the bark where the wound is made, and require a second operation.

Now, this would not be the case if caused by an insect. This disease may often be noticed under the bark before it burst, upon large limbs, where the bark is strong, which, if slightly opened with a knife, will yield to the pressure, and the fungus soon appears.

While this fungus is young and tender, the Curculio finds it a convenient receptacle for his eggs, the juice of which affords abundant nutriment for the larvæ. A pretty sure sign by which you may know that he has used it for that purpose, is a small drop of gum oozing from its surface; and where you do not see this sign, you may not expect to find his larva within.

I have said that this disease begins in the part called the alburnum. This is the texture through which the sap ascends; but it soon involves every texture of the tree—wood and bark—and is malignant and surely fatal to the limb on which it grows. It is as destructive to the tree as cancer is to the human flesh. These fungi always die the succeeding winter, never live over winter, and remain upon the tree, unless removed, a black, unsightly mass.

I have observed two trees, both of a kind, and nearly of a size, but standing apart and differently located; one would be diseased with the excrescences and the other would not, while the fruit of both would be nearly alike injured by the Curculio; and this fact I consider additional evidence that he is not the cause.

It is desirable both to find a remedy when a tree is diseased, and also a means of prevention. The only remedy I know of, is to cut the tumor out, and this should be done as early as possible. If done early, and with care, the wound soon heals, and the limb is but slightly injured.

But a means of prevention is more desirable than a remedy.

A tree of most of the kinds of plums which may be obtained at nurseries, if placed on a somewhat gravelly soil, whose power to retain water is small, and therefore subject to sudden transition from a moist to a dry condition of its roots, every season, I will venture to say will be diseased.

I do not mean that there may not be an exception, and that all kinds are equally subject to it; but I know of no exception among a number of varieties, which have been cultivated under my observation.

I am inclined to the opinion, that a prevention may be found in cultivating the plum in a loamy soil, rather moist, and in keeping that soil uniform as to moisture and richness.

Any kind of tree is not in the condition in which nature would place it and keep it, when the soil over its roots is kept naked and exposed to the burning and drying suns of summer, or uncovered and unprotected from sudden and intense cold of winter.

Neither can fruit trees prosper so well in grass land; for, though the covering of grass may serve as protection from extreme heat or cold, yet it will take from the soil the nourishment which should go to the tree.

In what a uniform condition the roots of forest trees are kept, by the thick bed of leaves which covers the earth, the slow and steady decomposition of which affords the necessary nourishment; and so matted and plaited are they, as to prevent the escape of the fertilizing grasses, which must otherwise evaporate unappropriated by the trees.

So far as I have observed, those plum trees have been exempted from these fungi which are located in good soil not subject to drought or deficient in moisture. Trees standing beside a heavy wall prosper better (other things being equal,) than those which stand in the open field, on account of the protection which the wall proves to the roots.

Entertaining these views, I would recommend to fruit-growers the following mode of cultivation, as a prevention:

Let the plum trees be set in a soil rather loamy and moisty, and they may be set within 8 or 10 feet of each other. The soil should be in good condition as to richness, and being made smooth and level, should be covered over with a good coating of straw, old hay, or leaves. This covering is to lie year after year, and decompose as the leaves do in the forest, having addition made to it from year to year, as may be necessary.

Such a course of management will make the soil approximate to uniformity as to temperature, richness and moisture, and, I believe, insure success in cultivating the plum; and not only is it suitable to the plum, but will enhance success in the cultivation of other fruits.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOEL BURNETT.

Southboro', May 19, 1843.

POINTS OF A GOOD HORSE.

We republish by request of a recent subscriber, the following article by Col. Jaques, which appeared originally in vol. xix. page 277.

Col. S. Jaques' *Remarks on the Prominent Points to be observed in the selection of a Useful Horse, more particularly for a Roadster.*

I prefer a lightish head, neatly set to the neck; the neck rising promptly and strong from the shoulders and withers, and somewhat crowning or curving at the top, tapering to the head with a strong crest. Shoulders well laid in, spreading well back, something like a shoulder of mutton. Chest deep, and a little projecting. Withers rising moderately high, and inclining well into the back. If the withers are low and flat on the top, the horse will be inclined to plunge to the ground, and when fatigued will stumble or fall. Neither must the withers rise too high, as he will then appear as though on stilts; both extremes are serious impediments to fine and safe action. Ribs should be well rounded out. Back straight and short, well coppled, that is, the hips well thrown forward, forming a strong loin, and giving a long lever from the point of the hip to the hock-joint of the hind leg. The horse should be a good length from point of shoulder to the extreme point of buttock. Dock strong, and well covered with hair. Close and snug immediately under the dock. The muscles on the inner part of the thighs should be full and well shut together. If there is a large cavity under the dock, the horse will be inclined to scour, and is probably only a door-yard horse.

The neck, head and body form a lever, resting on the fore legs as a fulcrum, the head being at the end of the lever. If the neck be very long and the head heavy, or if the neck be quite short, and the head short and light, either of these extremes very much affects the regular clips and action. The whole machine should be of good proportion.

The fore arm is a very important lever, as regards the safety of a roadster. The legs should be clean and free from blemish, and when in motion move true, and free from cutting or wabbling. The feet should be round and steep; heels broad; coronet and posterns of medium length. Shank or canon, short, broad and flat, showing the tendons or sinews. The knee large and well dropped down; the arm above the knee long, and the muscles large and full. The top of the shoulder where matched to the withers, should not be so heavy-loaded with muscle as to impede their action. No objections to the fore feet moving pretty close, but not so as to cut.

Much depends on the form of the hind leg and the power of that lever, as regards strength and speed. The shank, hock and thigh should be broad and flat, something like that of an ox; and if so, when in motion will operate like a plank sprung edgewise and then let fly. If the hind legs when at good speed open and spread a little, no objection, providing there is a good free action in the hock joint.

From Transactions of the N. Y. State Agricultural Society.

PRIZE ESSAY ON THE PREPARATION AND USE OF MANURES.

BY WILLIS GAYLORD.

Salt and Lime.—Salt and lime, artificially mixed as a manure, promises to be a valuable aid to the farmer in those positions where the soil abounds in insoluble silicates or geine, and where other manures necessary to produce decomposition or fermentation are not at hand. Prof. Johnston recommends a mixture of two parts of lime and one part of salt, the mixture to remain incorporated in a shady place, or covered with sods two or three months before using. Salt and lime should not be used immediately after mixing, as bad results are apt to ensue; but after being well mixed in a dry state and lying as directed, it may be applied at the rate of from thirty to sixty bushels per acre, either before or at the time of sowing. Mixed with soot, salt acts with great power on roots. Mr Sinclair mixed six and a half bushels of soot with the same quantity of salt, and used the mixture on lands sowed to carrots. The result was, that unmanured land gave twentythree tons of roots per acre, and the manured yielded forty tons per acre; and Mr Cartwright found that where unmanured soil gave 157 bushels of potatoes per acre, 30 bushels of soot and six of salt, made it produce 240 bushels per acre. Dr. Dana furnishes so beautiful an explanation of the manner in which this manure acts, that it deserves a place entire. "By mixing quicklime with common salt, its soda is let loose, the acid combines with the lime, forming a soluble salt of lime, and so long as the soda remains caustic, it has no effect on the muriate of lime, but as soon as the soda becomes mild or carbonated, decomposition of the muriate of lime is produced, and the common salt regenerated. Commencing then with quicklime and salt, we pass to a soluble salt of lime and caustic soda, and from that to mild soda, and to carbonate of lime and the original salt. If these various changes take place in the midst of peat or geine, it is evident that the caustic soda acts upon the geine, and also evolves ammonia from that substance; secondly, that the muriate of lime, in its finely soluble state, insinuates itself among the particles of the geine; that the soda is also equally diffused, and that when the soda becomes carbonated, it produces an almost impalpable carbonate of lime throughout the whole mass, which, by its equal diffusion through the soil with the geine, acts upon the silicates, as has been heretofore explained." To produce these effects, Dr. D. directs to take one bushel of salt and two bushels of lime; to make the salt into strong brine, and with it slack the lime. Mix both well together, and let them remain ten days; then let them be well mixed with three cords of peat, shoveled well over for about six weeks, when it may be used. A quantity of salt sufficient to destroy all vegetation, may be applied to a soil with safety, when a few months are to elapse before the crop is to be put on; as the chemical changes which take place, partially neutralize its effect during this time. A small quantity mixed with the soil in each hill of corn, has been found to protect it from the wire worm and the cut worm; indeed there is no substance that insects of all kinds more dread than salt. It is probable, therefore, that further experiments will show that not the least value of salt is to be found in its preventive properties against these depredators.

Preparation and Use of Stable Manures.—As the common farmer must always rely on stable or farmyard manure, as his principal means of fertilization and renovation of his soils, it is to these, to their preparation and use, that his attention must be principally directed. It is an important question for him to decide, whether he should apply his manure in a long state, that is, fresh from his stables and yards before undergoing decomposition, or let it remain until the litter and straw have fermented and become rotten, before using it. It has been said that rotted manure contains more geine or humus, weight for weight, than unrotted or fresh manure. This is probable; but to make this test decisive, equal weights of dung should be taken while fresh, one analyzed at the time, and the other when fermented and rotted. This course, it is believed, would show a result in favor of the unrotted. There can be no doubt, however, that straw, stable litter, &c. should be partially fermented before using, and the moisture necessary for the process should, if possible, be the urine of the animals or the drainings of the yards. Straw in dung intended for a particular crop, is of little use unless the fermentation has far progressed; and a distinguished German farmer has asserted that he considered straw as of no consequence in manure, except as acting the part of a sponge to retain the fluid parts of the animal manures. Where the unfermented dung of the yard or stable is applied to the soil, it should be covered at once by the plow, that the gas liberated in fermentation may not be lost, and that the moisture necessary for fermentation may be secured. When rotted or fermented, the covering is not of so much consequence, and it may without loss, be scattered on the surface and mixed with it. If used without fermenting, it should be applied to hoed or summer crops, such as corn or roots, as these are in that state while the manure is at the height of its fermentation, when forcing manures are the most useful; but if applied to the smaller grains, they are most active when matter for the perfection of the seed, not the enlargement of the straw, is most needed, and the last is increased at the expense of the first. Taking all these circumstances into consideration, there can be little question that the most economical way of making and using manures, is to convert the stable and barnyard manure into compost, by the addition of peat, swamp muck, cleansing of ditches, wash of roads, leached ashes, or even common loam or earth, taking care, when the manure is wanted for heavy soils, that the earth used in the compost should be as light or sandy as may be; and where the soil is light, that the compost earth should be marly clay.

The discussions which have been carried on, as to the propriety or impropriety of burying manures in the soil, have arisen from not stating the kind of manure to be used. The solid and soluble parts of manures have a tendency to sink into the soil; the gases evolved in fermentation, a tendency to rise. The true principle, then, is to bury the unfermented matters no deeper than is necessary to secure the moisture required for fermentation, while the fermented or decomposed dung, having no fertilizing gases to lose, may be mixed at once with the surface earth. Some of the greatest crops of Indian corn ever grown in the United States, have been produced by placing a heavy dressing of unfermented manure on turf land, and turning it under with the plow. The surface is then rolled, to press the sod close upon the manure, and afterwards harrowed, to loosen the earth for the reception of the seed. Into each hill, a small portion of fully rotted manure or compost is put at planting. This promotes germination, gives the young plant a vigorous start, and by the time the roots have penetrated beyond this, active fermentation has commenced in the long manure, and thus fertilizing matters are furnished in the greatest abundance when most wanted by the plant.

Salt and the Cut Worm.—F. J. Betts, Esq., in the Albany Cultivator, says: "A good deal has been said in the agricultural papers about the effect of common salt as a manure, and also as a remedy for the cut worm. I used it last year, as you will probably remember, sown broadcast, at the rate of two bushels per acre, and my field escaped the ravages of the worm entirely, although my immediate neighbors were all complaining of its being uncommonly destructive. Last fall, I was planting fruit trees in the field which I have this year appropriated to Indian corn, and I found the soil literally filled with the cut worm. I again sowed salt in the same quantity as last year, immediately before plowing the ground this spring, and I have not lost a single plant from its ravages, and I believe, therefore, that there is no doubt that salt is a certain remedy for that pest of the agriculturist."

Spoken For.—Decidedly the best thing we have seen the present season in the way of illustration, is a cut accompanying a communication in the June No. of the Farmer's and Mechanic's Journal, published at Chagrin Falls, Ohio. It is not the beauty of the engraving that strikes one, but the truth, we had almost said sad truthfulness of the cut, that will fix the attention of all farmers who may meet with it. The man who drew that, had an eye for nature, and the past season furnished but too many similar subjects for the pencil of an amateur. The cut represents a sheep—she looks as though she might be the last of a flock—endeavoring to shelter herself behind a broken and dilapidated fence, from the piercing blasts of March. Her wool has fallen off in large patches on her rump, sides, back and neck; her shrunken form speaks of lack of hay and want of turnips; and every thing indicates a sheep that had seen better days, but had now reached the lowest depth of poverty. Two or three crows are seated on the fence near her, apparently deliberating whether they should commence picking her ribs now, or wait a few hours longer for the scanty meal she would furnish; while others are seen on the wing, hastening to join the consultation or the feast.—*Alb. Cult.*

To Housewives.—If some common salt be put into the water, when washing cabbages or greens, preparatory to cooking them, the snails, slugs, worms, &c. will come out and sink to the bottom, so that they need not be boiled with the vegetables. It is impossible to wash them out, except the cabbages be taken to pieces, and people generally like to have the vegetable served up whole. —*Selected.*

Do n't neglect to let your stock have frequent access to salt.

GUANO.

The use of the dung of birds is not a modern improvement, for that of poultry has been adopted as a manure from a very early period. M. P. Cato, the earliest of the agricultural writers, in his work commends the use of pigeons' dung for meadows, corn lands and gardens. And John Worlidge, in 1669, was warm in the praise of the dung of fowls. "Pigeons' or hens' dung," he says, "is incomparable: one load is worth ten loads of other dung, and is therefore usually sown on wheat or barley that lieth far off and is not easy to be helped." And he says, in another place, "A flock of wild geese had pitched upon a parcel of green wheat, and had eaten it up clean, and sat thereon and dunged it several nights; the owner despaired of having any crop that year; but the contrary happened, for he had a far richer stock of wheat there than any of his neighbors had."

The most elaborate set of experiments upon the guano, or dung of sea-fowl, with which I am acquainted, were made in 1810, for potatoes and mangel-wurzel, at the island of St. Helena, by the late Gen. Beatson. The soil on which these experiments were made, was rather stiff, being composed of blackish mould, intermixed with friable fat clay. The following table gives the results of every experiment: 35 loads of horse dung litter per acre were used, 35 of hogs' dung litter, and 35 bushels per acre of the guano.

1. With potato seed the size of walnuts, planted whole—

Guano,	554 *Bush.*
Horse dung,	583
Pigs' dung,	447
Soil simple,	395

2. Large potatoes cut in pieces—

Guano,	589 *Bush.*
Horse dung,	531
Pigs' dung,	466
Soil simple,	408

3. From middle eye of potato—

Guano,	576 *Bush.*
Horse dung,	563
Pigs' dung,	485
Soil simple,	337

4. With small potatoes planted whole—

Guano,	628 *Bush.*
Horse dung,	583
Pigs' dung,	544
Soil simple,	570

With mangel-wurzel, the produce per acre on a similar soil was as follows:

	Tons roots.
Soil simple,	19 1-2
Hogs' dung and ashes, 360 bush. per acr.	66 1-2
Guano, 35 bush. per acre,	77 3-4

The accuracy of this valuable communication has been most amply confirmed by my own experiments in the culture of potatoes with guano, as well as a trial of it upon grass lands. Three cart-loads of the guano per acre, appear to me equivalent in effect to seventy loads of good rotten dung.

The effect of the guano upon grass lands is comparatively greater than in the potato experiment. From what cause this proceeds, it may be difficult to explain; but as Dr. Priestley found, by experiment, that vegetables throve best when they were made to grow in air made putrid by the decomposition of animal and vegetable substances, it may be inferred that the very strong effluvia from the sea-fowl dung or guano, together with its being readily washed among the roots of vegetables, by the first falls of rain, are circumstances that may possibly render its effects as a top-dressing greatly superior to those it produces when it is mixed with the soil.

It is a matter not unworthy the attention of chemists, to consider whether a mixture similar to the guano, and of equal efficacy, cannot be formed by art—not only at a cost so reasonable as at once to make the farmer independent of the importer, but also in such abundance as at the same time to place so valuable a manure within the reach of all.

Several attempts have been made to manufacture an artificial guano, and the results have shown considerable success.

The following mixture contains the various ingredients found in guano in nearly the average proportions; and Mr Johnston believes it is likely to be at least as efficacious as the natural guano, for all the crops to which the latter has hitherto been applied:

315 lbs. bone dust;
100 lbs. sulphate of ammonia;
5 lbs. pearlash;
100 lbs. common salt;
11 lbs. dry sulphate of soda.

531 lbs. of artificial guano.

The above mixture would cost in England, about £2; the imported guano sells for £12 per ton.

In England, the guano is an entirely new fertilizer. About 20 casks were imported in 1840, by Mr Myers, of Liverpool; in 1841, one or two more cargoes arrived from the Pacific. In 1842, forty thousand tons were imported into England. —*Johnson's Farmer's Encyclop.*

Earwig.—A well-known insect, common in damp places, and often found in numbers under stones and beneath the bark of trees. They do much damage in gardens by preying upon the fruit. The English common name, and also the French *pierce-oreille*, relate to a habit absurdly attributed to these insects, of penetrating the ears.

It is a curious fact that the earwig sits upon her eggs like a hen; and when the young are hatched, they creep under the mother like a brood of chickens under a hen.

They are very injurious to flowers, eating holes in the blossoms, and otherwise disfiguring them, particularly the dahlia. It is common with English gardeners to hang up among the flowers and fruit trees subject to their attacks, pieces of hollow reeds, lobster claws, and the like, which offer enricing places of retreat for these insects on the approach of daylight, and by means thereof great numbers of them are obtained in the morning.—*Ib.*

Ant.—An insect extremely injurious to pasture lands and gardens; in the former by throwing up hills, and in the latter by feeding on the fruit, and foliage. As night-soil is found to destroy them when spread upon their hills, it may be the least objectionable application to the bottom of trees to prevent their ascending them. A liquor prepared by boiling black soap with sulphur in rain-water, has been used for the destruction of these insects, it is said, with considerable success. Where this liquor is employed, the ground infested by the ants should be thoroughly saturated with it.—*Ib.*

The manufacture of silk was introduced into Europe from India A. D. 551.

NUTRITIVE MATTER OF DIFFERENT VEGETABLE SUBSTANCES.

Davy, in his Elements of Agricultural Chemistry, gives the following table, showing the quantity of soluble or nutritive matters contained in 1000 parts of different vegetable substances, examined in their green state:

	Nutritive matter.
Middlesex wheat,	955
North American wheat,	955
Norfolk barley,	920
Oats, from Scotland,	743
Rye, from Yorkshire,	792
Common bean,	570
Dry peas,	574
Potatoes,	200 to 260
Red beet,	148
White beet,	136
Parsnips,	99
Carrots,	98
Cabbage,	73
Swedish turnip,	64
Common turnip,	42
Broad-leaved clover,	39
White clover,	32
Sainfoin,	39
Lucerne,	23
Timothy,	33
Fertile meadow-grass,	78

Seasoning Posts and Timber.—Posts should never be put in the ground in a green state, notwithstanding they will last longest in wet ground. Constant wet from water will not injure them, but the fermentation of the natural sap in the wood hastens decay. We ought also to name in connexion with this, the importance of suffering the sills of a house and other buildings to become dry before they are used. It is true we now set buildings higher than we formerly did, and we take smaller timber for sills, and both these practices tend to favor the durability of the timber—yet we are often obliged to put in new sills, on account of the timber being used in an unfit state. A stick of timber eight inches square, is better for any building, as a sill, than one twelve inches square. —*N. Y. Mechanic.*

Use of Salt for Celery.—The Gardener's Chronicle recommends the use of salt as manure for celery, to be applied by watering the plants with weak brine. It says that the growth will be thereby greatly promoted. The experiment is worth trying, but care must be used not to apply too much; and as no exact directions are given, it must be settled by experiments.—*Genesee Far.*

To Destroy Thistles, Fern and Coltsfoot.—Having once a pasture-field that seemed one entire bed of common thistles, and having occasion to cart manure across it to another field, I observed all the thistles completely killed wherever the carts went; I therefore set to and rolled the whole field with a cast-iron roller, once in the latter end of May, and twice in the beginning of June. The field has been free from thistles ever since. Fern and coltsfoot I have exterminated in the same way. —*London Hort. Reg.*

If every man would mind his own business, every man's business would be attended to.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,
AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

BOSTON, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16, 1843.

NEW ENGLAND STOCK.

Last week we stated that the reasons why New England farmers have urgent need to improve their stock, deserve consideration. The special reasons are few, and may be very briefly stated. The State of Ohio now sends cattle to Brighton market. The expense of driving over a large part of the route is a mere trifle—the wages and board of the drovers. The journeying is slow, not more than 8, 10 or 12 miles per day, and the drove feeds and fattens upon the unenclosed lands by the way-side. The original cost of raising the cattle at the West is very small. Consequently these western cattle can be sold in our market at a low rate. They will necessarily keep down the price of beef here. Our cattle must be sold low; but the cost of raising here, especially in the vicinity of our cities, is great. The feed, whether grass, hay or grain, is valuable. Ordinary cattle must cost us more than their market value. It is only the individuals *of uncommon excellence* in our herds, that yield any profit. We are in want of animals that shall give us the largest possible amount of milk, butter, labor and beef *in proportion to the cost of keeping*. It is only with good animals that we can save ourselves in this competition with the West. The farmers of Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont, being obliged to feed at the barn for six months of the year, will find it hard to live, while the West comes here to compete with them, unless they can furnish us better stock than Ohio sends.

That the East and North do give us better stock for our uses here, than is sent on from the West, is probably true. The western cattle are—very many of them at least—long-legged and raw-boned. They are larger, or if not *larger*, they are taller than the eastern cattle; but we should judge them to be less hardy and less thrifty.

While this is true, as we think, it is equally true that very many of our Eastern and Northern cattle are needlessly raw-boned and raw hided. This is the result of want of skill and long-continued care in the selection of breeders. Our farmers need instruction as to the principles of breeding—they need to learn what points are desirable and what are objectionable in their cattle—they need to have the eye and the hand trained to observe and to determine accurately what properties an animal does possess.

And it should be their purpose to breed from the *best*—be they natives, Durhams, Ayrshires, Herefords, or a cross—take *the best*. There are good individuals in every breed, and care should be taken to breed from such as much as possible.

Taking the liberty to step a little aside from the subject with which we started, we feel disposed to controvert, in part, a statement that has been printed and circulated the world over, viz: that it costs no more to keep a good cow than to keep a poor one.

The good cow on the farm is generally better fed than the ordinary one. Wherever the produce of a cow is absolutely great in milk or butter, it is certain that she is better fed, taking the year through, than are the mass of cows in this vicinity. The common feed, viz: fresh-meadow hay, grain straw, and corn-stalks, for two, three or four months in winter, and English hay for a few weeks in the spring, together with a range in the pastures and fields in summer and autumn, that are generally stocked so close that the cow must be busy *all day* in order to fill herself,—this is *common* keeping; and on this, though one cow may do, and will do, vastly better than another, yet on *such keeping alone*, no cow comes up to her 20 quarts of milk per day, or her 15 lbs. of butter per week. Generally, the cow that yields as much as two common cows, does, and must, eat more than one common one. But she does not eat as much, in quantity or value, as the *two* common ones. Economy, therefore, requires us to choose the good one, even though she do eat more than the other.

The good *working ox*, too, is usually more hearty at the crib, than the indifferent one. We have for some years chosen a differently formed ox for the yoke from that which we should choose for the stall. For labor, we would take an ox that is relatively heavier at the shoulders than behind;—we like to see a capacious place for lungs. But where the lungs are large, more of the carbon of the food is consumed in the breathing, and less goes to form fat. We think that these animals with large lungs consume the most food and will do the most work, and that the gain in work is greater than the extra cost of feed.

If we are selecting oxen for stall-feeding, we take those in which the lungs are small, and in which the hind quarters will be relatively heavy. The beef of the hind quarter is worth the most, and animals of small lungs consume less of the carbon of their food in breathing, and consequently have more left for making fat.

These statements will show what principles would guide us, were we to attend Brighton market for the purpose of purchasing. But were we engaged in breeding cattle, we should prefer animals in which the shoulders and the hinder parts bore the proportions which they have in what we call a well proportioned ox—or an ox of perfect form. Such a form would be good for either the yoke or the stall.

The basis of excellence in stock has been brought up with such definiteness by the New York State Agricul. Society, that it will be a matter of much discussion in the agricultural press. We are willing to help it on. This willingness has caused us to make the above distinctions between the working ox and the ox for beef. We know not whether another individual living has ever thought the same. The opinion with us, is derived from our remembrance of the few oxen that we have worked and fed, or have had opportunity to observe frequently and carefully within the last few years. If the opinion is unsound, we will cheerfully relinquish it upon satisfactory reasons being given to show that it is so. But if it be correct, it may *possibly* be turned to some trifling account occasionally.

Large Crop of Rye.—Mr Charles Cushing, of Dorchester, informs us that on two acres of rather rough land which he is improving, sown with two bushels of seed, he has just obtained *eighty bushels* of winter rye.

Omission.—In our notice last week of Dr. Valentine's method of making manure, we omitted to state that, after having filled the cask with his mixture, he covered it with sods, compactly placed, and thus prevented the escape of the gases.

☞We are indebted to Redding & Co, 8 State street, for a copy of "The Farmer's Manual—a practical Treatise on the Nature and Value of Manures, founded from Experiments of various crops," &c. "By T. Falkner, Esq., and Author of British Husbandry." New York: D. Appleton & Co.—A glimpse at this work has given us a favorable impression. Price, 31 1-4 cts.

MASS. HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

EXHIBITION OF FLOWERS.

Saturday, Aug. 12, 1843.

The copious and constant rains of the past week, curtailed, in a measure, the exhibition today, yet a very respectable show of flowers were in the stands.

From S. Walker, a number of very beautiful bouquets, and a fine display of Phloxes, several fine old kinds, and fourteen seeedlings, among them several superior specimens; a fine white, purple, and a very singularly variegated one, quite a novelty.

From the Botanic Garden, Cambridge, by Wm. E. Carter—a good display of Phloxes, in variety; Orchis, Achimenes longiflora, pot plant, in bloom, (fine)—bouquets, &c.

From M. W. Quaint, gardener to Col. Perkins—a fine display of variegated double Balsams.

From S. R. Johnson, an array of cut flowers—comprising Roses, Balsams, double-flowering Pomegranate, Phloxes, Verbenas, &c.; a branch of a rose-bush (var. Mad. Desprez) had upwards of 50 roses and buds upon it—very fine.

From Ed. Winslow, a good show of Dahlias, Carnations and Picotees.

From J. Breck & Co., fourteen varieties of Phloxes. Several of the seedlings were superior specimens.

From J. L. L. F. Warren, large and showy Bouquets. Dahlia, var. Sir F. Johnson, (new) fine.

From Mr Kenrick, Miss Russell, Dr. Howard and J. Hovey—Bouquets and Dahlias.

From J. Bowditch, Hisbiscus, Rosa sinensis, pot plant.

From the President, (M. P. Wilder, Esq) *Lilium speciosum*, and *L. lancifolium album*, (new) from Japan. These, unquestionably, were the most splendid specimens of the lily tribe ever produced in the country. The first, finely spotted with deep crimson, on a pink and white frosted ground; the second, a pure white; both vars. of the most perfect form; petals lanceolate, arching finely from the centre, slightly curled, highly fragrant, and, as a whole, pre-eminently beautiful. The Society and the public are greatly indebted to Col. Wilder for the introduction of these rare varieties among us. Bulbs have been sold in England for ten guineas, so highly are they appreciated in that land of flowers. For the Committee,

HENRY W. DUTTON.

EXHIBITION OF FRUITS.

From Otis Johnson, large and handsome Early Bough Apples; fine specimens of Citron des Carmes Pears; Zinfendal and Black Hamburg Grapes.

[The Black Hamburg grapes from Mr Johnson, were extra fine fruit. The bunches were of full size, the berries large, in fresh bloom, highly and deeply colored, and fine in flavor—well grown in every particular.]

From Samuel Pond, Apricot and Italian Damask Plums; the latter very handsome.

From J. Lovett, 2d, fine Early Harvest and Red Astracan Apples.

From Hovey & Co., Black Naples Currants—large

From John Trask, Lynn; Plums, without name.

From Samuel Walker, Sugar Top, Citron des Carmes and Green Chisel Pears.

From B. V. French, Heath's Early Red Nonesuch Apples.

From Cheever Newhall, Early Apples (?)

From James Munroe, Cambridge; fine large specimens of the River Apple.

From J. C. Howard, Bergamot d'Ete, Green Sugar and Jargonelle Pears; fine Black Hamburg and White Chasselas Grapes.

From J. L. L. F. Warren, Sugar Top Pears; very handsome Early Harvest and River Apples; Franconia Raspberries and Figs; also, specimens of Red Juneating, Early Bough, and Early Harvest Apples, received by him from a friend in Rhode Island.

For the Committee, P. B. HOVEY, Jr.

EXHIBITION OF VEGETABLES.

Three varieties of extra large and fine Tomatoes, were exhibited by Dr. Howard.

AN ADDRESS before the New Haven Horticultural Society: May, 1843. By Alfred S. Monson, M. D.

This address is of the right kind—plain and practical, giving wise instructions to fruit-growers.

☞Our exchange papers lead us to believe that the wheat crop of the country will be full an average one.

☞MASSACHUSETTS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY. At a meeting of the Committee of Arrangements held this day at the Horticultural Rooms :—

Voted—That the Annual Exhibition of the Society shall take place on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, the 13th, 14th and 15th of September next.

Voted to add the following gentlemen to the Committee of Arrangements :

B. P. Hovey Jr	J. E. Teschemacher
Jona. Winship	E. Wight
Wm. Kenrick	J. Lovett, 2d
Wm Oliver	Wm. E. Carter
Wm. Wales	R. M. Copeland
E. M. Richards	Parker Barnes
H. W. Dutton	

Voted to adjourn the meeting to Saturday next, at 10 1 2 o'clock. JOS. BRECK, Sec'y.

Aug. 12.

MASS. HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

An adjourned meeting of the Society will be held on SATURDAY, the 19th inst., at 11 o'clock A. M.

EBENEZER WIGHT,

Aug. 16. *Recording Secretary.*

THERMOMETRICAL.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

Range of the Thermometer at the Garden of the proprietors of the New England Farmer, Brighton, Mass. in a shaded Northerly exposure, for the week ending Aug. 13.

Aug. 1843.		7,A.M.	12, M.	5,P.M.	Wind.
Monday,	7	62	75	70	E.
Tuesday,	8	70	89	74	E.
Wednesday,	9	69	82	72	N.
Thursday,	10	70	78	66	E.
Friday,	11	64	68	68	N. E.
Saturday,	12	68	72	71	N.
Sunday,	13	68	84	74	N.

BRIGHTON MARKET.—Monday, Aug. 14, 1843.

Reported for the N. E. Farmer.

At Market 380 Beef Cattle, 10 pairs Working Oxen, 15 Cows and Calves, 2500 Sheep and 500 Swine.

Prices.—*Beef Cattle.*—Last week's prices were fully sustained. We quote to correspond, viz: a few extra $4.50 a 4.75. First quality, $4.25 a 4.50. Second quality, $3.75 a $4.25. Third quality $3.00 a $3.50.

Working Oxen.—Sales $55, $60, and $78.

Cows and Calves.—Sales $18, $23 and $27.

Sheep.—Lots were sold from $1.00, 1.75, and $2 00.

Swine.—Two small lots were sold for 5 and 6. A lot to peddle 4 1-2 for sows, and 5 1-2 for barrows. A few were retailed from 5 1-2 to 7.

WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT.

Corrected with great care, weekly.

SEEDS. Herds Grass, $0 00 to 2 50 per bushel. Red Top 45 to 50 cents. Clover—Northern, 00 to 12c.—Southern, 0 a 9 c. Flax Seed, $0 00 per bushel. Lucerne, 33 c. per lb. Canary Seed, $4 50 per bushel.

GRAIN. Duty, Corn, Rye and Beans, free; Barley 20 per cent.; Oats 20 per cent.

The rainy weather, which has continued nearly throughout the week, materially interfered with the usual business in the Grain market. The arrivals have been light, and the market closes pretty firm at the quoted rates.

Corn—Northern, old, bushel 59 to 60—Southern, round yellow, old, 00 a 00—Southern flat yellow, new, 57 a 58—do. do. white 54 a 55—do New Orleans, 50 a 54—Barley 00 a 00 —Rye, Northern, 70 a 72—do. Southern, 60 a 65—Oats, Southern, 00 a 00—Northern do. 30 to 32—Beans, per bushel 1 00 a 1 62.—Shorts, per double bush. 22 a 25—Bran, 18 a 20.

FLOUR. The demand has been very inactive during the past week, and prices are without much change. There is none afloat, and but little at the railroad depot.

Baltimore, Howard Street, 4 mos. cr. $5 25 a 5 37 —do. wharf, $0 00 a 0 00 do. free of garlic, $0 00 a 5 25—Philadelphia do. 4 mos. $0 00 a 0 00 —Fredericksburg, low l'd 4 mos. $5 25 a 0 0—Alexandria, wharf mountain, 0 00 a 0 00, —Georgetown, $5 50 a 5 75—Richmond Canal, $5 37 a 0 00 —do. City, $0 00 a 0 00—Petersburgh, South side $0 00 a 0 00 —do. Country $0 00 a 0 00—Genesee, common, cash, $5 00 a 5 12— do fancy brands $5 18 a 5 25 — Ohio via Canal, $0 00 a 0 00—do do New Orleans, cash $4 87 a 5 12. Rye, $3 75 a 4 00—Indian Meal in bbls. $3 00 a 3 25.

PROVISIONS. There is the usual supply of clear Pork, and prices remain unchanged. The heavy operations in mess during the season, both for exportation and consumption, have very materially reduced the stock and prices are quite firm. Prime is scarce and quotations somewhat higher.

Beef—Mess 4 mo. new bbl. $8 50 a 8 75—Navy—$7 50 a 7 75.—No. 1, 7 00 a 7 25—do Prime $0 00 a 0 00—Pork—Extra clear 4 mo. bbl. $13 00 a 13 50—do Clear $00 00 a 12 50 do. Mess, 11 00 a 11 50—do Prime $10 00 a 10 50—do Mess from other States,— a — —do Prime do do $0 00 a 0 00 do. Cargo do. 0 a 0 00— —Clear do do $00 00 a 00 00— Butter, shipping, 0 a 00—do store, uninspected, 7 a 8—do dairy, 10 cts. a 14—Lard, No. 1, Boston ins. 00 a 00 —do South and Western, 5 a 7 — Hams, Boston, 6 a 6½ — Southern and Western, 5½ a 6—Cheese, Ship'g and 4 meal, 3 a 5—do new milk, 5 a 6.

WOOL. Duty. The value whereof at the place of exportation shall not exceed 7 cts. per pound, free. All whereof the value exceeds 7 cts. per pound, 30 per ct. ad. val. and 3 cts. per pound.

Moderate sales of Fleece have been made at quotations. The market is nearly bare of pulled wool.

Prime or Saxony Fleeces, washed, lb. 37 a 40 c.—American full blood do 33 a 35—Do. 3-4 do 32 a 00—Do. 1-2 do 29 a 30—1-4 and common do 25 a 27 — Smyrna Sheep, washed, 20 a 23— Do. unwashed, 10 a 13—Bengasi do 8 a 10—Saxony, clean, 00—Buenos Ayres unpicked, 7 a 10—do. do. picked, 12 a 16—Superfine Northern pulled lamb '23 a 32—No. 1 do. do. do. 25 a 27—No. 2 do do do 19 a 22—No. 3 do do do 12 a 15.

HOPS. Duty 20 per cent.

1st sort Mass. 1842, lb. 14 a 15. 2d do. do. do. 00 a 00.

HAY, 14 to 16 per ton—Eastern Screwed $10 to 12.

CHEESE—Shipping and 4 meal, 3 to 4c.—New 5 to 6.

EGGS, 12 a 14.

STRAWBERRIES!

The subscriber would most respectfully give notice to those who are desirous of cultivating the most delicious Fruit, that he will offer his select collection of Plants, at the following reduced rates, in order that all may be enabled to grow them.

Having been engaged for twelve years in raising this Fruit extensively, he is enabled, by his knowledge of the choice varieties, and the best modes of cultivation, to offer the most extensive assortment of Plants and in the finest condition, of any cultivator in the country. Persons may satisfy themselves of this fact by a visit to his Gardens.

Warren's Seeding Methven—A very superior variety, a great bearer, perfectly hardy, the fruit often measuring six inches in circumference. Price per hundred plants, $5,00

Hovey's Seedling—A splendid fruit, bears abundantly, and worthy of extensive cultivation, $5,00

Keene's Seedling—Large fruit, and of very high flavor and rich perfume, $2,00

Bishop's Orange.—Very fine size and abundant bearer, $2,00

Myatt's Pine—A delicious fruit, $2,00

Downton—A superior and large fruit, $2,00

The above varieties are all of the most superior kinds, and can be highly recommended.

The following old varieties will be furnished at $4,00 per hundred :—

Early Virginia,	Hauthois,
Methven Castle,	and
Royal Scarlet,	English Wood.

Where one thousand Plants are ordered, a discount of 25 per cent will be allowed.

☞Every Plant sent from the Gardens will be warranted true. The several varieties, carefully labelled and securely packed, so as to be transported any distance in safety, and where it is desired, directions for planting and cultivation will accompany the Plants.

The months of August and September are the best months in the year for making plantations of this Fruit. Those made at this season and properly treated will produce fruit the coming season.

Orders enclosing the amount wanted or with references, and left with Geo. W. Warren & Co. 192 Washington street, Boston, or forwarded by mail to the subscriber, will receive immediate and careful attention

JAMES L. L. F. WARREN,

Aug. 15 Nonantum Vale, Brighton.

STRAWBERRIES!

The subscriber can supply all the most esteemed varieties of Strawberries now in cultivation. The present is considered a good time for the formation of new beds. The following are the prices per hundred plants :—

Hovey's Seedling—a very superior variety, of large sized fine flavor, abundant bearer, and very hardy, $5,00

Keene's Seedling—Large fruit, very high flavor and high perfume, $2,00

Bishop's Orange—Fine size, abundant bearer and superior flavor, $2,00

Elton Seedling—Very large fruit of a superior flavor, considered one of the best in England, $5,00

Myatt's Pine—A delicious fruit, $3,00

The old varieties furnished at $1.00 per hundred.

Orders sent by mail enclosing the money will be punctually attended to, and the plants well packed for transportation. JOSEPH BRECK.

Boston, Aug. 15, 1843.

ADMINISTRATOR'S SALE OF DURHAM CATTLE AT AUCTION.

The entire herd of improved Durham short horned Cattle, the property of the late Henry Hudson, Esq. consisting of upwards of twenty head of thorough bred Cows and Heifers and two Bulls; also, about twenty head of high bred Cows and Heifers will be sold at auction at the Rocky Hill farm, heretofore owned by Mr. Hudson, about three miles from the city of Hartford, on THURSDAY the 24th of August, 1843, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon.

This herd have been carefully bred from importations from the herds of Charles Champion, Esq., Mr Wetherel, Mr Whitaker and Mr Curry, all well known English breeders, and no pains or expense have been spared by the late proprietor to procure and breed first rate animals.

The sale will be positive and no part of the stock will be disposed of previous to the auction.

Per order of the Administrator.

SEXTON & SEYMOUR, Auc'rs.

Hartford ug. 4, 1843.

SCIONS FOR BUDDING AND INGRAFTING.

WILLIAM R. PRINCE & CO. will supply orders for Scions of the various Fruits, cut from the bearing specimen trees in their experimental orchards, at 25 cents for each variety. They have also above 100 new varieties of Pears and other fruits recently introduced, which are comprised in the new catalogue of the London Hort. Society and other late publications,—of which they will supply a few Scions at 50 cents for each variety. No order for a less amount than $5 can be executed, and the cash must accompany the orders.

WILLIAM R. PRINCE & CO.

Linnæn Botanic Garden and Nurseries, Flushing.

Aug. 2, 1843.

N. B. A great variety of monthly Tree Roses are now in flower, and 1000 fine Plants 4 feet high can be supplied in October.

WANTED A SITUATION AS GARDENER.

A young man who is well acquainted with Gardening in its various branches, and who can give satisfactory testimonials, wishes a situation. He will, if required, take charge of a horse and cow. Please apply at the Office of the N. E. Farmer, 52 North Market Street. Aug. 8.

POUDRETTE! POUDRETTE!!

The subscribers keep constantly on hand, and for sale, Poudrette in quantities to suit purchasers; packed in Barrels in order for shipping, or transportation by wagon or Rail Road.

The experience of five years past has satisfied many farmers, that this manure has the quickest operation upon vegetable matter, producing greater abundance, and is the cheapest manure they have ever tried.

Orders left at the New England Seed Store, and at the factory in Brookline, will meet with prompt attention.

For sale by J. BRECK & CO, 51 and 52 North Market st., Boston. Oct. 26.

HARRIS' TREATISE ON INSECTS.

For sale by JOSEPH BRECK & CO., Harris' Treatise on Insects. Price $2. Also, the second edition of Dana's Muck Manual, price 62½ cts. Feb 15.

DRAFT AND TRACE CHAINS.

400 pair Trace Chains, suitable for Ploughing.
200 " Truck and leading Chains.
200 " Draft Chains. For sale by J. BRECK & CO., No. 52 North Market st.

MUCK MANUAL.

For sale by JOSEPH BRECK & CO., The Muck Manual for Farmers. By Dr S. L. Dana; price 62½.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A Wonderful Horse.—A rather remarkable occurrence transpired a short distance from this town a few days ago. While two young men, apprentices with Mr D. Lee, grocer and tea dealer, in Dewsbury, were taking a short walk down the side of the river Calder, their master's warehouse dog, which was accompanying them, strayed into an adjoining field, and on seeing an ass, which was grazing, suddenly fell upon it, worrying it in a most ferocious manner. A number of men being at a short distance, and seeing the dog likely in a short time to worry the poor ass to death, went and commenced a fierce attack upon the dog with hedge stakes, but without succeeding in getting him off the ass, which he was mutilating in a most shocking manner. A horse, belonging to Mr Geo. Fell, of Earlsheaton, had witnessed these proceedings evidently under most agitated feelings, and, as if conscious the poor ass must perish unless he interfered, made a rush through the hedge, cleared off the men who were trying to liberate the ass, and in a most furious manner seized the dog with his teeth, and dragged him off, and aimed several blows at him with his fore and hind feet, and had not the dog made off, it is supposed he would have despatched him in a few minutes. When the horse had accomplished this feat, he, with head and tail erect, pranced about the ass in a noble and most dignified manner, as if proud of having gained a mighty conquest, and manifested evident tokens of pleasure, as if sensibly feeling that he had done an act of benevolence. All who beheld this wonderful deed of Mr Fell's horse, were powerfully struck with his evident intelligence and sympathy for his fellow-brute.—*Wakefield (Eng.) Jour.*

Reason pronounced Sorcery.—The ignorant have often given credit to the wise for powers that are permitted to *none*, merely because the wise have made a proper use of those powers that are permitted to *all*. The little Arabian tale of the Dervise, shall be the comment of this proposition.

A Dervise was journeying alone in the desert, when two merchants suddenly met him. "You have lost a camel," said he to the merchants. "Indeed we have," was the reply. "Was he not blind in his right eye, and lame in his left leg?" said the Dervise. "He was," replied the merchants. "Had he not lost a front tooth?" said the Dervise. "He had," rejoined the merchants. "And was he not loaded with honey on one side and wheat on the other?" "Most certainly he was," they replied, "and as you have seen him so lately, and marked him so particularly, you can, in all probability, conduct us to him." "My friends," said the Dervise, "I have never seen your camel, nor ever heard of him but from you." "A pretty story, truly," said the merchants; "but where are the jewels which formed a part of his cargo?" "I have neither seen your camel nor your jewels," repeated the Dervise. On this they seized his person, and forthwith hurried him before the Cadi, where on the strictest search, nothing could be found upon him, nor could any evidence whatever be adduced to convict him, either of falsehood or of theft. They were then about to proceed against him as a *sorcerer*, when the Dervise, with great calmness, thus addressed the court:—"I have been much amused with your surprise, and own that there has been some ground for your suspicions; but I have lived long and alone; and I can find ample scope for observation even in a desert. I knew that I had crossed the track of a camel that had strayed from its owner, because I saw no mark of any human footstep on the same route; I knew that the animal was blind in one eye, because it had cropped the herbage only on one side of its path; and I perceived that it was lame in one leg, from the faint impression which that particular foot had produced upon the sand; I concluded that the animal had lost one tooth, because wherever it had grazed, a small tuft of herbage was left uninjured, in the centre of its bite. As to that which formed the burden of the beast, the busy ants informed me that it was corn on the one side, and the clustering flies that it was honey on the other."—*Lacon.*

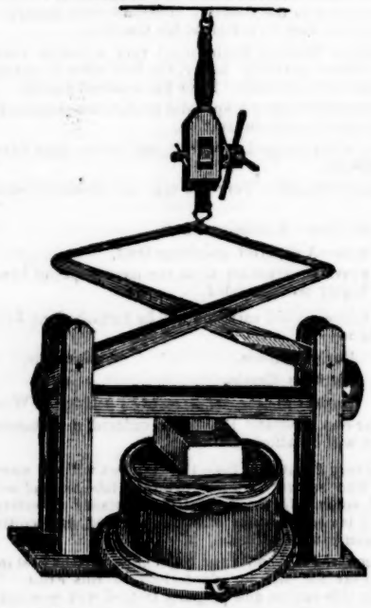
Visiting the Heathen.—An old clergyman, and rather an eccentric one withal, whose field of labor was a town in the interior of New England, one Sunday, at the close of the services, gave notice to his congregation that in the course of the week he expected to go on a mission to the heathen. The members of his church were struck with alarm and sorrow at the sudden and unexpected announcement of the loss of their beloved pastor, and one of the deacons, in great agitation, exclaimed—"Why, my dear sir, you have never told us one word of this before! What *shall* we do?" "Oh, brother C——," said the parson, with the greatest sang froid, "*I do n't expect to go out of town!*"—*N. Y. pap.*

Horse-shoes, made of iron, were first used A. D. 381.

Saddles came into use in the fourth century. Stirrups were not made till a century later.

Pens first made of quills, A. D. 635.

CHEESE PRESSES.



SELF-GOVERNING CHEESE PRESSES—two kinds—lately improved by the Shakers. These are so constructed that they govern and regulate themselves without weights, and are by far the best presses now in use.

For sale at the N. E. Agricultural Warehouse, 51 and 52 North Market street. JOS. BRECK & CO.

June 7, 1843.

HOWARD'S IMPROVED EASY DRAUGHT PLOUGH.

Great improvements have been made the past year in the form and workmanship of these Ploughs; the mould board has been so formed as to *lay the furrow completely over, turning in every particle of grass or stubble, and leaving the ground in the best possible manner.* The length of the mould board has been very much increased, so that the Plough works with the greatest ease, both with respect to the holding and the team. The Committee at the late trial of Ploughs at Worcester, say,

"Should our opinion be asked as to which of the Ploughs we should prefer for use on a farm, we might perhaps say to the inquirer, if your land is mostly light and easy to work, try Prouty & Mears, but if your *land is heavy, hard orrocky,* BEGIN WITH MR. HOWARD'S."

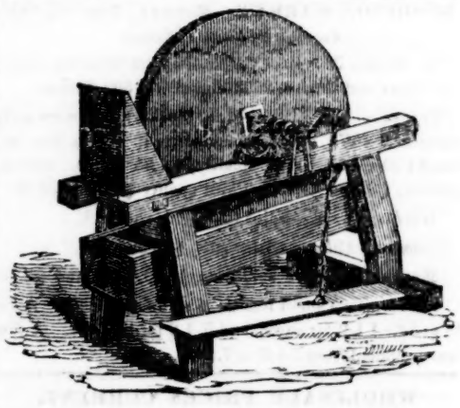
At the above mentioned trial the Howard Plough *did more work, with the same power of team, than any other plough exhibited.* No other turned more than twentyseven and one half inches, to the 112 lbs. draught, while the *Howard Plough turned twentynine and one half inches, to the same power of team!* All acknowledge that Howard's Ploughs are much the strongest and most substantially made.

There has been quite an improvement made on the shoe, or land side of this Plough, which can be renewed without having to furnish a new landside; this shoe likewise secures the mould board and landside together, and strengthens the Plough very much.

The price of the Ploughs is from $6 to $15. A Plough, sufficient for breaking up with four cattle, will cost about $10 50, and with cutter $1, with wheel and cutter, $2 50 extra.

The above Ploughs are for sale, wholesale and retail, at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, Nos. 51 & 52 North Market Street, by

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.



GRINDSTONES ON FRICTION ROLLERS.

Grindstones of different sizes, hung on friction rollers and moved with a foot treader, is found to be a great improvement on the old mode of hanging grindstones. Stones hung in this manner are becoming daily more in use, and wherever used, give universal satisfaction. The rollers can be attached to stones hung in the common way. For sale by J. BRECK & Co., No. 51 North Market street.

LACTOMETERS—a simple instrument for testing the quality of milk. For sale by J. BRECK & CO.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

A WEEKLY PAPER.

Terms, $2 per year *in advance*, or $2 50 if not paid within sixty days.

N. B.—Postmasters are permitted by law to frank subscriptions and remittances for newspapers, without expense to subscribers.

TUTTLE AND DENNETT, PRINTERS,

21 School Street.